



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 12/20/2018 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:30 AM

Departure: 1:15 PM

CCLC-37783

Smart Start Learning Center, LLC

942 Linton Road Sandersville, GA 31082 Washington County
(478) 552-8447 smartstartlearningcenter@yahoo.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672

Fax: (866) 359-7490

kesha.mcneal@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Laura Johnson

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient. Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
12/20/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/04/2018	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
03/02/2018	Monitoring Visit	Deficient	

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	A /B- 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap
Main	C - School Age		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	D - 4's 2nd R		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-3's - 3rd L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	TV,Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 29			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 29			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	34	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

The center director stated that they do not provide routine transportation or field trips.

The director stated that they do not dispense medication or provide swimming activities.

A one day letter was left on this date.

The center director provided one file for an employee hired since the last visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/20/2018

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx>, for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)



Important New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Findings Report

Date: 12/20/2018 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:30 AM

Departure: 1:15 PM

CCLC-37783

Smart Start Learning Center, LLC

942 Linton Road Sandersville, GA 31082 Washington County
(478) 552-8447 smartstartlearningcenter@yahoo.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672

Fax: (866) 359-7490

kesha.mcneal@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Laura Johnson

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the green book shelf in the after school classroom had sharp edges on the left hand side accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the following hazards were stored under the sink in the two-year-old bathroom and not inaccessible to children as required: two bottles labeled bleach and water, a can of disinfectant spray, and a bottle of arm and hammer cleaning solution.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that a power strip located in the infant classroom was being used and was not made inaccessible to the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that two fence panels on the front left side measured forty-six inches, instead of the required forty-eight inches.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. The director will ensure that the playground equipment provides an opportunity for children to engage in a variety of experiences and is age appropriate.

Correction Deadline: 12/30/2018

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open. The director will ensure that staff use proper ventilation when diapering children.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, non porous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the diaper changing surface was not cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel after a staff member diapered a child.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

Finding

)591-1-1-.10(5) requires that Center Staff shall not leave infants or children unattended while being diapered or having their clothes changed on the diaper changing surface. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that a staff member in classroom A/ B was observed leaving a child unattended on the diaper changing surface while taking a phone call on her personal cell phone.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained, procedures are reviewed periodically and diaper changing is monitored periodically.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that children were observed arriving for care and not washing their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that two staff members did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm water upon arrival for the day.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that two occupied cribs out of six contained a mattress that was not tight-fitting without gaps.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 6**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/21/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/22/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Met

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2016

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/06/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2016

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Director provided one] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1.)(b) requires the Center to ensure that every Director has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that the director was present with only a National satisfactory Records Check Determination.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that one employee was present with children and only had a National satisfactory Records Check Determination.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on the consultant's review that the center director did not have current evidence of CPR training in that the director just took the examination part and not complete the hands- on portion of the training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on review of records that one staff member had evidence of completing first aid training, however did not complete the hands-on portion of the CPR training. It was further determined based on the consultant's review that the cook did not have evidence of first aid and CPR training within 90 days of their hire date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 1/18/2019

Recited on 12/20/2018

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on the consultant's review that the cook who has direct care responsibilities did not complete health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2019

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2018

Corrected on 12/20/2018

.33(4) - The previous citation is corrected in that the employee completed the required infectious disease training.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5) requires the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation to have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on the consultant's review that the cook did not have evidence of four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2019

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2018

Corrected on 12/20/2018

.31(2)(b)2. - Previous citation is corrected in that the employee is no longer a lead teacher.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times and that the persons supervising in the child care area be alert, able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the chaperones and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that four infants were left unattended in the infant classroom when the teacher briefly stepped over the threshold. Additionally, four children in the two and three-year-old classroom were left unattended when the teacher briefly stepped over the threshold.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2018